



ACS helps local employee improve credit, obtain difficult promotion

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

What can you do when a bad credit rating is preventing you from obtaining a government civilian position? One Aberdeen Proving Ground civilian knows firsthand, after poor credit scores made her ineligible for a promotion that required a secret clearance. The Edgewood Area employee—who

agreed to be interviewed but asked not to be named—has been working at APG for 25 years and said she’s a very responsible person, “but there were seven items on my credit report from when I was divorced years ago that I couldn’t afford to pay at the time.”

When she interviewed for the position and learned that a recommendation was dependent on her obtaining a

security clearance, her boss at the time referred her to budget counseling offered by the installation’s Financial Readiness Program.

“I had to develop a plan and answer for each item, and I was given a certain amount of time to correct them while attending budget counseling,” she said. “[Arcelio] Alleyne, [the Financial Readiness Program manager] helped so much.

I learned so much from him; my Family too.”

She said her budgeting plan forced her to make several worthwhile sacrifices.

“We cut out unnecessary expenses and started making lunch instead of buying it, skipping the stop for coffee on the way to work every day, going to movies

See **FINANCIAL**, page 10

63 YEARS 5 MONTHS 13 DAYS...



Arif Zaky is retiring May 24 after 63 years of service—30 years of active duty including time as a Special Forces/Delta Force Soldier and 33 years as a military operations analyst with AMSAA at APG.

APG vet looks back on over half a century

Story and photo by
ROGER TEEL
RDECOM Public Affairs

An old Soldier, one of America’s few surviving World War II-era veterans, is preparing to do what old Soldiers do -- fade away. “Don’t mention any of my awards,” Arif R. Zaky said as the interview comes to an end. “The only one that means anything to me is the Good Conduct Medal. Believe me, I earned that one,” he added, chuckling as he takes a sarcastic swipe at his duty performance. Zaky will retire at a May 24 luncheon at the

Aberdeen Proving Ground North recreation center. By his accounting, he will have completed 63 years, 5 months and 13 days of federal service. He is 80 years and 8 months old.

Zaky’s performance, first as a noncommissioned officer for 25 years, then five years as a commissioned officer, and for the past 33 years as military operations analyst at the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, has provided him with a stimulating and rewarding life. His AMSAA cubicle holds little of the past,

See **AFTER**, page 11

ASAP offering needed services

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Substance Abuse Program has experienced some changes in the past year. One of these changes is the addition of a new Alcohol and Drug Control Officer.

Timothy Knox, APG’s new ADCO, said he feels compelled to work in the drug and alcohol prevention field.

“It is less of a job and more of a calling,” he said. “The role that ASAP plays doesn’t just impact the job; it impacts the lives and Families of individuals.”

Knox, an Army retiree, worked as the ASAP noncom-

missioned officer in charge at Fort Benning, Ga., and with the ASAP program at Fort Meade, Md. He has a master’s degree from Troy University in legal administration.

Knox said ASAP is committed to helping the APG community by taking a holistic approach.

“We are very aware that alcoholism tends to rise during difficult financial and high



Knox

See **SUBSTANCE**, page 11



Richard Shamblin (left), of CERDEC’s Space and Terrestrial Communications Directorate, and Carl Morris, project leader for the Joint Satellite Communications Engineering Center Risk Mitigation Facility, examine a circuit card of the MIDAS at the JSEC RMF.

Joint SATCOM Center relocates from Monmouth

Story and photo by
STEPHEN LARSEN
Special to the APG News

Army officials successfully met a Base Realignment and Closure requirement April 27 when they commissioned the new Joint Satellite Communications Engineering Center Risk Mitigation Facility at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The facility, located in a leased building at APG, includes duplicates of some systems at the Fort Monmouth, N.J., JSEC that handle information vital

to the operational readiness or mission effectiveness of U.S. deployed and contingency forces around the world.

“BRAC law requires that the movement of functions from Fort Monmouth be accomplished without disruption of support to overseas contingency operations – and also that redundant capabilities are put in place to mitigate any potential degradation of that support,” said Wayne Schoonveld, Chief of

See **APG**, page 10



Steady now

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades (middle) studies a shot May 16 during an 18-hole Captain’s Choice tournament that kicked off Armed Forces Week at Ruggles Golf Course. Festivities continue May 21 with a 10K race and dinner cruise/relighting of Poole’s Island lighthouse. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/APGMd#!/APGMd?sk=events>.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

WEATHER

Thurs.



73°|59°

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FIND YOUR VOICE

The May Community Action Council will take place today at 9:30 a.m. at the APG South (Edgewood) chapel.



IMCOM commander talks fiscal reality
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ONLINE

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New fiscal reality, same commitment to Soldiers

New fiscal reality, same commitment to Soldiers, Families
A fundamentally different fiscal reality. We will be hearing some variation of that phrase from Army leaders for a long time to come.



The Army's budget is smaller than it has been in previous years, and it will get smaller still. However, a different fiscal reality does not change the reality of what we owe to Soldiers and Families for their service and sacrifice. The Army's commitment to Soldiers and Families remains as strong as ever.

For the last 18 months, the Installation Management Community has been taking a hard look at the programs and services we provide to Soldiers and Families, with an eye not only to costs but also to effectiveness. As the inevitable belt-tightening comes, we are not trying to do more with less. We are working to make sure we can do the important things better.

One of our most important efforts has been to fully establish Survivor Outreach Services, to provide Survivors with longer-term, expanded support and care after casualty assistance ends. SOS staff have made tremendous progress in a short time, receiving more than 24,000 cases from Casualty and Mortuary Affairs, and they continue to enhance services as more Survivors provide feedback.

This past year, SOS initiated a Survivor vehicle decal program to ease installation access, established a Facebook page, and held the first annual SOS summit to address challenges Survivors face.

Other efforts include:

- Transforming how Army Community Service delivers services, by cross-training more generalists to handle multiple programs and moving service

We are finding better ways to provide services by asking the same questions Families ask about their own budgets: do we really need it? Is it worth the cost? What are we willing to do without?

- locations out into communities.
- Adding 44 more Systems Navigators to Exceptional Family Member Programs at 26 installations, to assist Families with special needs members in accessing educational, medical, housing and personnel services on and off post.
 - Hiring more than 240 additional Army Substance Abuse Program counselors for installations worldwide.
 - Launching the Confidential Alcohol Treatment and Education Pilot, a program which allows Soldiers to seek help for addiction without mandatory command involvement.
 - Launching a pilot program in which Military Student Transition Consultants join School Liaison Officers in working with school districts, garrisons and Families to help students succeed at their new schools.
 - Revising the Total Army Sponsorship Program that helps prepare Soldiers, Families and Civilians for their new duty station.
 - Reinvigorating the Army Family Action Plan process, with an analysis and review process that has reduced the backlog of active AFAP issues from 86 in February 2010 to 51 in February 2011.
- This is a snapshot of what we have been doing to enhance support for Soldiers and Families. It does not begin to convey the full scope of the programs and services installation management professionals provide every day, including housing, public works, emergency services, environmental programs, recreation, child care, single Soldier programs and Family programs.

When we look at some big indicators, we see evidence that the Army is meeting the needs of Soldiers and Families. The Army is exceeding its recruitment and retention goals, and on the most recent Survey of Army Families, the majority of spouses said they are satisfied with the Army as a way of life.

This is significant after 10 years of ongoing conflict-it speaks to the dedication of Soldiers and their Families and the Army's commitment to providing a quality of life commensurate with their service.

In the new fiscal reality, it will be more of a challenge for the Installation Management Community to provide the level of support we want to for our Soldiers and Families, but we will.

We are finding better and smarter ways to provide services and programs by asking ourselves the same questions Families ask when they look at their own budgets: do we really need it? Is it worth the cost? What are we willing to do without?

To answer these questions, we need to keep hearing from Soldiers and Family members-through ICE and local AFAP summits, for example-about the specifics of what is working, what needs to be improved, and what is missing.

The commitment to supporting Soldiers and Families remains as strong as ever, but more than ever, we have to make sure we are on target in meeting their needs.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
IMCOM Commanding General

First lesson as a mom -- be there

Maybe I did it, but I wasn't there. As a mother it's my biggest fear.

To hold my daughter while she sucks from a bottle. To watch her tiny 3-month-old hand punch at a toy.

To see a toothless grin spontaneously spread across her unblemished face.

Maybe I will have done them all, but will I have been there? Did I connect? Did I drink in the moment? Was I really there? Or was I too busy? Busy worrying about the laundry? Busy trying to meet a schedule? Too busy counting the days until my husband comes home from deployment?

One year ago, I wondered what I would learn during my husband's second deployment to Iraq. This is it. Be there.

Whatever is happening, no matter how hectic and tiring or mundane and tedious, be there. Pick those things that are most important and be there. It's harder than it sounds.

As my newborn daughter changed I wanted her to slow down. My husband wasn't there.

Daddy was sometimes a pixilated-image on a lap top screen that would call out my daughter's name. He would see her grow through daily Skype sessions. But really, he wasn't there. Like all spouses, I wanted my husband to see his child grow.

My desires for time control should have created a paradox of devastating consequences. Slow down the time for my daughter. But speed up those days until my husband comes home.

Neither wish was granted. So there I was left with my growing daughter in my arms and my husband hundreds of miles away in a war zone.

I was in the midst of my powerless state when I heard Jane Fonda on the Oprah Winfrey show reflecting on her life as a mother and grandmother.

Fonda told a story about lying next to her grandson staring at him. As Fonda went to break her gaze her grandson grabbed her face. "I'm not ready," he told her.

Hadn't she done that with her own children - lain beside them as they drifted off to sleep, asked Oprah.

"Maybe I did it, but I wasn't there," said Fonda. The experience became an epiphany for her. For me as well.

Life is full of little moments when we forget to connect - moments when we forget everything that's important.

I'm not ready for my daughter to start pushing herself up from tummy time. But I refuse to miss those moments when she cocks her head back and gives me that toothless grin.

I live in those moments, and in whenever I have the chance to angle the laptop to view her smiles and kicks, screams and giggles. And so without the powers of time travel or ultimate control of the universe, I relinquish control of my experiences to the here and now.

Because when my daughter is older and has a child of her own, I want to be able to say "I did it, too, and I was truly there."

Jennifer Clampet
USAG Wiesbaden, Germany

Sporting event shows unified audience

Unless you are a night owl, you woke up two weeks ago to the news of Osama Bin Laden's death. It was on every single channel - including ESPN.

The top story on ESPN is the top story on every station: Osama Bin Laden killed in Pakistan. Some things are much, much more important than the score of last night's NBA playoff games.

ESPN opened Sports Center with footage of the Phillies/Mets game from that Sunday night, when the news began to spread of the Navy SEALs completed operation; people around the stadium started getting the breaking news on



their phones and soon the Phillies video board showed a snapshot of a Web page confirming the news - the alleged mastermind behind 9/11 was taken down. Chants of, "U-S-A, U-S-A" began to reverberate around Citizens Bank Park; the crowd stood and clapped, cheered and hugged. They were outwardly showing what each of us felt, sitting in front of our TV.

What was so significant about this display is that it is the only place where we have footage of so many people getting such monumental news at the same time. With this footage from Citizen's Bank Park, we are able to see a snapshot of the American people - of 47,000 people simultaneously having a similar reaction.

Once again, our nation's military are our heroes. Time and time again, our

service members quietly go about their work, making the world a safer place for each and every one of us - without ever asking for recognition, kudos or even a pat on the back.

Most likely, we will never know the names of the men who took part in that mission in Pakistan; they won't get the recognition like Dwyane Wade after his 38 points against the Celtics Sunday afternoon or Vincent Lacavalier after his game-winning goal against the Capitals in overtime of Game 2; but the nation's gratitude is with them on their next mission.

And they proved to us, yet again, who the real heroes are.

Jennifer Hartwig
Hunter Army Airfield Public Affairs

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



APG NEWS

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMNE-APG-PA, Building 305, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1153. Printed circulation is 8,900. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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Bicycle safety—It can’t hurt

APG Safety Office

Just about everyone who rides a bicycle gets a scraped knee or elbow at some point and even the most careful rider can take an occasional tumble. Still, knowing the rules of the road and taking some precautions can keep a rider from getting hurt.

First of all, here are some bicycle accident statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In the last survey conducted in 2009, 630 cyclists were killed, mostly in urban areas, with an additional 51,000 injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes. One-seventh of the cyclists killed were between 5 and 15 years old but the average age of a bicyclist killed on US roads was 41; and nearly one-fourth (28 percent) of the cyclists killed in 2009 were drunk with a blood alcohol content over .08.

So, contrary to popular belief, the average bicyclist injured or killed is not a pre-teen or teenager, nor are they always sober. Older adults have statistically had more accidents on bikes than youngsters.

The NHTSA reports that most fatalities are due to head injuries and additional injuries (like broken bones or deep cuts) that require emergency medical treatment. A proper helmet that meets or exceeds the American National Standards Institute standards can reduce the risk of a head injury or trauma by up to 85 percent, making the helmet the most important piece of equipment you can use to protect yourself.

“Today’s helmets are actually very lightweight and comfortable, unlike the old ones that fell in your eyes and felt like an anvil on your head,” said Lynda Rice with the Installation Safety Office. “Only buy helmets with a label that reads, ‘Complies with US CPSC safety standard for bicycle helmets,’ and ensure the helmet is correctly fitted and adjusted before using.”

To ensure a correct fit, a helmet should

In addition, when riding on APG, utilize a brightly reflective belt worn diagonally over the right shoulder and down under the left arm or an orange/green/yellow vest that can be worn both day and night for visibility.

Lynda Rice
Installation Safety Office

sit level on the head - not tilted forwards or backwards (and don’t wear a hat underneath); have strong, wide straps that fasten snugly under the chin with no dangling straps; and replace the helmet when the fit changes or every five years - and always immediately after a hard impact.

DOD Instruction 6055.4, APG Policy dated 24 February 2009, and APGR 190-5 all require personnel riding bicycles on APG and Edgewood to wear an approved and properly secured helmet.

Kevlar and sports helmets do not meet those standards and cannot be used.

“In addition, when riding on APG, utilize a brightly reflective belt worn diagonally over the right shoulder and down under the left arm or an orange/green/yellow vest that can be worn both day and night for visibility,” said Rice. “If a backpack is worn, a reflective vest or belt will be placed around it.”

Bicyclists are considered vehicle operators by law and are required to obey the same rules of the road as other traffic vehicles, including obeying signs, red lights, lane markings, riding with the flow of traffic (except when dismounted, at which time regulations pertaining to pedestrians apply), indicating turns by using hand and arm signals, yielding to traffic that has the right of way, and not behaving in an unpredictable manner.



Cash awards could be just a suggestion away

The ASP seeks suggestions that improve work methods, materials, processes, equipment, logistics, utilities or tools that will benefit the Army.

Suggestions that save money can be eligible for a cash award up to \$25,000. The more money saved, the larger the potential award.

Visit <https://armysuggestions.army.mil> for info, or contact Marjorie Sexton, Installation ASP coordinator, at 410-278-0944 or marjorie.sexton1@us.army.mil.



SAFETY TIPS

Always ride on the RIGHT-HAND side of the street in the same direction as the cars.

Inspect your bike beforehand for proper tire inflation, worn tread, damaged frame, loose chain, worn brake pads, or frayed cable derailleur’s.

NEVER wear headphones while biking – a cyclist needs to be able to hear everything on the road at all times. (Illegal on DoD Installations)



Lonely sparrow by Shyann Stolo, age 8

Through their lens

These digital photos, taken by students at the APG South (Edgewood) youth center, were entered in the Boys and Girls Club Image Makers Northeast Regional Contest. If the photos win at the regional level, they will be entered in the national contest. “The children in the youth center have taken many fantastic photos, these are just a few of the best,” said Renee Main, facility manager.



Squirrel Watcher by Jose Figueroa-Valez, age 10



Snow Tree Studded with Birds by Elise Stolo (14)



U.S. Army Photo

The MRAP (mine-resistant, ambush-protected) Overhead Wire Mitigation Kit was a top Army invention in recent years. The Army is now accepting nominations for 2010 Army Greatest Invention awards and, new this year, Soldier Greatest Invention awards.

Submit nominations package for greatest invention by July 1

RDECOM news release

Since 2003, the Army Materiel Command has conducted the Army Greatest Inventions program to encourage and reward those fighting the war from research labs throughout the Army by developing the best technology solutions for the Soldier.

This year, AMC is promoting the Soldier Greatest Inventions, or SGI, Awards to recognize Soldiers for their exemplary effort to enhance their fellow Warfighters’ equipment and/or performance.

SGI nominations are now being accepted for practical extensions, applications and/or game-changing new products initiated by one or more active duty U.S. Army Soldiers.

Winners will be selected by fellow warfighters based on the invention’s impact on Army capabilities (breadth of use and magnitude of improvement over existing systems), inventiveness and potential benefit outside the Army.

This program’s unique nomination and selection process reflects the voice of

the warfighter and insight into the future of Army equipment. The SGI awards are truly “Soldier Choice Awards.”

Previous AGI award winners include the 40mm M320 Grenade Launcher, Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare Duke V3 (CREW DUKE V3) and MRAP (mine-resistant, ambush-protected) Overhead Wire Mitigation Kit.

Nomination criteria:

- Nominated inventions for SGI must have been “First Fielded” during calendar year 2010: Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.
- The SGI “fielding” definition can include traditional and other expedited fielding methods used to put a new mission critical product, device or process in to use by Soldiers at any level.

Technology nomination criteria for each award are available through the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, executing on behalf of AMC. Nomination packages must be submitted by email to AGI-Awards@us.army.mil by July 1.



Greene



Wiltsie

PEO IEW&S Change of Charter slated May 26

The Program Executive Office-Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors will hold a Change of Charter ceremony at 10 a.m., May 26, in the Aberdeen Proving Ground Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6002.

Douglas Wiltsie will relinquish leadership to Brig. Gen. Harold Greene. Lt. Gen. William Phillips, Military Deputy, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics & Technology), will officiate the ceremony. Guests attending the ceremony should be in place by 9:45 a.m. For more information, call 443-861-7820.

Community Notes

THURSDAY MAY 19 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Harford Community College will hold its 53rd Annual Commencement Ceremony for the Class of 2011 at 6 p.m. The College will close at 3 p.m. to prepare for commencement. This event will occur under a tent on the parking lot adjacent to Aberdeen Hall (the “A” Lot). There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony in a smaller tent adjacent to the commencement tent. Guests do not need tickets. Seating available on a first-come, first-served basis. Guests may begin arriving at 4 p.m. and must be seated by 5:45 p.m. Sign language interpreters for the deaf and hard of hearing will be present.

SATURDAY MAY 21 INVASINATORS

Become a part of the volunteer team of invasive plant removers and native plant restorers. Learn why non-native invasive plants are a threat to the ecosystem, how to identify problem plants, and removal and restoration strategies. Wear sturdy shoes, long sleeves, and work gloves for field work in the Reserve each meeting date. Participants receive an Invasinators t-shirt after attending

two work days. This program will be held 10 a.m. to noon for ages 14 to adult. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SUNDAY MAY 22 FEW FUNDRAISING CRUISE

The MarylandTri-County Chapter Federally Employed Women is sponsoring a fundraising trip aboard the Lantern Queen May 22 from noon to 2:30 p.m. Relax and enjoy a two-hour cruise featuring the sights of historic Havre de Grace and the Susquehanna River. Trip includes a luncheon of Chicken Caesar Salad, Ham, and Turkey Club wraps (potato salad and coleslaw), beverages and deserts. Cost is \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members. Proceeds benefit the Dottie Working Women’s Scholarship. Call 410-278-7348, 410-642-2411 - ext 5129, or 410-436-4429.

BIRDING BY BOAT AND PHLOATING PHOTOGRAPHY

Phil Powers will help find and identify birds, while Dave Gigliotti will teach how to capture them on “film.” This program will be held 1 to 2:30 p.m. for ages 10 to

adult. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for ages 10 to 13. Registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

WEDNESDAY MAY 25 TECHNOLOGY NEEDSTEENS

Harford Community College will host the 4th Annual “TNT - Technology Needs Teens” 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Aberdeen and Bel Air Halls. Events include exothermicity, robotics and ultra cool physics. Personnel from Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, SAIC, Smiths Detection, American Chemical Society, Harford Community College, Raytheon, CERDEC and many others will give presentations. TNT is a one-day program for a select group of eighth grade students to learn from hands-on presentations by STEM professionals. For information, contact Brian Hammond at 443-412-2379 or bhammond@harford.edu.

FRIDAY MAY 27 EARTH, WIND AND FIRE: A TRIBUTE

Jazz at the Manor: A Summer Series

of Jazz presents a tribute to Earth, Wind and Fire, 8 to 11 p.m. at Rockfield Manor, 501 Churchville Road, Bel Air. Cost is \$25 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under. Cost includes pit beef, fried fish and chicken wings, cotton candy, popcorn, snowballs and unlimited moon bounce play for children. To purchase tickets, visit <http://jazzsummerseries.eventbrite.com/>. For more information, call 410-688-0232 or email Info@Events-byLorraine.net.

SATURDAY MAY 28 CHILDREN’S GARDENING - “LET US” GARDEN

Have fun growing food and flowers here and at home. Enjoy crafts, games, and science disguised as fun, while learning about seeds, life cycles, and cooking the food grown. This program will be held 11 a.m. to noon for ages 5 to 10. The cost is \$5 per person. Registration is required.



**MORE
ONLINE**
More calendar
events can be seen
at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under
Community Notes.

Post Shorts

Kirk clinic closings

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed May 27 for a training day and May 30 for Memorial Day. On May 31, the clinic will be open in the morning only as the staff welcomes incoming commander, Lt. Col. Ellen S. Daly during an afternoon ceremony.

No pharmacy services will be provided during this period. Patients are encouraged to refill medications at Kirk before 5 pm May 26. The pharmacy refill line is 1-800-248-6337. Visit www.tricare.mil/pharmacy for pharmacy options.

For medical services needed after hours, weekends or federal holidays, call staff duty at 443-807-0725. The staff duty officer will coordinate your care with the referral management office.

To avoid point-of-service copayment charges, a referral is required to go to any urgent care clinic.

In a medical emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. Emergency rooms do not require a referral.

For more information on Urgent and Emergency Care, visit http://www.tricare.mil/tricaremartfiles/Prod_570/BN_bulletin_08_i2_L.pdf, page 3, or <https://www.hnfs.net/common/referentialsAuths/Emergency+and+Urgent+Bene.htm>.

VA Summer Youth Volunteer Program

Summer Youth Volunteer Program at the VA Maryland Health Care System

The VA Maryland Health Care System has announced that the 2011 Summer Youth Volunteer Program will begin in June at each facility. Orientation classes will be held for new participants and is mandatory to be accepted in the program. Youth volunteers must be between the ages 14 and 17; must be able to show proof of age with a birth certificate; and must commit at least 75 hours of service throughout summer. Youth volunteers will work only three days per week; they will NOT be permitted to work an assignment area with parent or guardian in tow.

Sign up now to volunteer and to begin the June Orientation classes. Interested youths must complete a volunteer application, available online at <http://www.volunteer.va.gov/apps/volunteernow/>.

SAME meets today

The Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post will meet 11:30 a.m. May 19 at the Wetlands Golf Club, 740 Gilbert Road, Aberdeen. Guest speaker will be Gary Martin, executive

deputy to the Commander, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. Martin’s presentation is titled “APG and RDECOM – Where Are We Going?” Walk-ins are welcome. Space is limited and registration is required.

For more information or to register, call 410-638-9699 or register online at <http://www.same-chesapeake.org>.

RAB meeting set May 26

The next RAB meeting will be held May 26, 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Senior Center. The topic will be Other Edgewood Areas.

Clinic change of command

Kirk U. S. Army Health Clinic will welcome incoming commander Lt. Col. Ellen Daly and pay tribute to departing commander Lt. Col. Mark Ireland during a change of command ceremony at Fanshaw Field on APG at 1 p.m. May 31. The inclement weather site is the recreation center, Bldg. 3326.

Following the change of command, there will be a re-signing of the Army Medicine Healthcare Covenant. The covenant demonstrates a clear commitment to sustain a high level of care for Soldiers and the Army community. There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony in the recreation center.

AER Campaign extended to May 31

It’s not too late. Contributions to the annual AER Campaign will be accepted through May 31 by allotment, cash, or check. Contributions remain important to allow AER to fulfill its mission of helping Soldiers in time of distress and misfortune. Call AER Campaign Coordinator Capt. Malikah McCormick at 410-278-3000. For information on AER, call Installation AER Officer Marge Fissel at 410-278-2508.

ABC’s Extreme Makeover seeking military Families

The producers of ABC’s “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” announced April 19 that they are seeking people involved in the military whose home deserves an extreme makeover.

According to the press release, the producers are looking for people with “amazing strength of character who put their own needs aside to help others. Whether it’s a Soldier, a mom, a teacher or a fireman, we think deserving Families are Families who



Mail Center, Post Office moving tomorrow

The Garrison Administrative Mail Distribution Services and the U.S. Post Office will relocate to Bldg. 4510, at the corner of Boothby Hill Avenue and Darlington Street, beginning May 20. Mail Distribution Services will close at noon May 20 and reopen at noon May 23 at the new location.

The U.S. Post Office will close at noon May 20 and reopen at 9 a.m. May 23 at the new location. The hours of operation for the Mail Distribution Services and the U.S. Post Office will remain the same.

inspire those around them.”

Additionally, the show’s producers are seeking Families whose houses need major alterations or repair – homes that present serious problems for the Family and affect the family’s quality of life.

To be eligible, Families must own their single-family home and be able to demonstrate how a makeover will make a difference in their lives.

Interested military Families or people who wish to nominate a military Family should e-mail a short description of the family’s story to emheusa@gmail.com. The e-mail should include the names and ages of household members, a description of the family’s challenges, an explanation of why the Family is deserving of a makeover or is a positive role model in the community, photos of the Family and their home, and contact numbers.

The deadline for nominations is May 30, but people should send submissions early, the release said. Only up to 25 families are selected each season.

For more information on the application process, visit <http://abc.go.com/primetime/xtremehome/index?pn=apply>

Sign up at APG for Satellite communications

The Satellite Communications: Systems, Technology, and Applications course will present a comprehensive description of the technology and applications of satellite communications that is interesting and understandable to engineers and non-engineers.

The course will be held at Aberdeen Proving Ground July 11 through 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will benefit engineers, technicians, managers, planners, as well as marketing, contracts and procurement specialists. Cost is \$1,350 per student.

For more information, including an outline of the course and registration form, visit <http://www.tdicourses.com>. Down-

load and e-mail your registration form by July 1 to tdi98@sbcglobal.net and send check or money order for \$1,350.00 to: TDI, 140 North Vista Street; Los Angeles, CA 90036 or provide credit card information on registration form.

The course instructor, Dr. Arthur Einhorn, has more than 25 years hands-on experience in system development and engineering in the aerospace industry.

Direct questions to 323-935-4649 or 323-496-0397.

Blood drive dates

APG will host blood drives on the following dates:

21-Jun-2011	TUE	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
25-Jul-2011	MON	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
23-Aug-2011	TUE	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
27-Sep-2011	TUE	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
31-Oct-2011	MON	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
29-Nov-2011	TUE	1000-1400
Recreation Center		
5-Dec-2011	MON	1000-1400
Recreation Center		

Traffic Update

Due to ongoing construction at Aberdeen Proving Ground, traffic routes will continue to change. For continuous updates, visit the APG Live Blog at <http://apg.armylive.dodlive.mil/?p=762>.



**MORE
ONLINE**
More shorts can
be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under
Shorts.

FAMILY AND MWR

Activities/Events

Plan your vacation at the Travel Fair on May 24

Wanderlust hits APG. The annual Travel Fair will take place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 24 at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326. Representatives from local attractions will be available for visitors. Enter to win door prizes including hotel stays, bus trips, theme park tickets, gift certificates, TV and more. There will be live entertainment, light refreshments and snacks and free promotional give-a-ways.

For more information call MWR Leisure Travel Services, AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or email APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Luray Caverns discount

Take a spin through time, 400 million years worth to be exact, to discover the amazing history of these unearthly caverns. Tickets cost \$18.25 for adults 13 years and older; tickets for children ages 3 to 12 cost \$9.25. Luray Caverns is located on 970 Highway 211 West, Luray, Va., in the Shenandoah Valley. Prices are subject to change without notice. Visit <http://www.luraycaverns.com/Planyour-Visit/AboutLurayCaverns/tabid/507/Default.aspx>. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the MWR Leisure Travel Office at 410-278-4011/4907, visit the AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Personal Training

APG Sports Branch is offering personal training programs. All active duty military and Family members, DoD civilians and family members, and DoD contractors are eligible.

Training is offered at the athletic center, fitness center and Hoyle Gym to assist customers in meeting their personal fitness needs. The program is offered in individual half-hour and one-hour sessions and blocks of sessions. Individual half-hour sessions cost \$40 each; one-hour sessions cost \$55 each. Blocks of six half-hour sessions for the cost of five sessions is \$200; blocks of six sessions for the cost of five sessions is \$275

Contact the athletic center or Hoyle Gym for details.

Discount Aquarium tickets

The Leisure Travel Office offers discount tickets to the National Aquarium in Baltimore. Adult tickets cost \$23.25 per person; tickets for children ages 3 to 11 cost \$17.50; active duty tickets cost \$19 each and are issued one per active duty ID card only.

Tickets do not include the dolphin show or the 4D Theater, but are upgradeable at the aquarium.

Take an unforgettable journey into the mysteries of water and the beauty of the natural world.

Watch brilliantly colored triggerfish explore a coral reef. Marvel as sharks glide through the shadowy depths just an arm's length away.

For more information or to purchase

Lynyrd Skynyrd/Doobie Brothers tickets go on sale June 6

Pre-sale tickets for the Aug. 20 Lynyrd Skynyrd concert featuring the Doobie Brothers at Aberdeen Proving Ground go on sale June 6 for government ID cardholders only. Tickets are \$25 June 6 to 10. Presale opens to the public June 10 to 12. Prices increase to \$30 June 13.

Sales are over-the-counter only at APG North's Bldg. 3326 or APG South's Bldg. E4140, recreation centers. Present a military ID or CAC card at time of purchase. Also appearing will be rock songstress Dilana, who may be best known for her participation on the hit CBS reality-show "Rock Star: Supernova." Call 410-278-4621 for information.

tickets, call the MWR Leisure Travel Office at 410-278-4011/4907, visit the AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Board horses at APG Stables

The APG stables are a self-care boarding facility located in the Edgewood Area, Bldg. E5286, for privately owned horses of military and civilian employees, retirees and Family members.

All patrons must have a valid military or installation ID card.

Monthly stall fees include:
Four turn-out pastures
Lighted riding arena
Water troughs in each pasture
Run-in sheds
Barn with water and electricity
Tack rooms, grain room and hay storage provided

For more information or to sign up, call Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124 or visit www.apgmwr.com/recreation/odr/stables.html.

Daily bus trips to Atlantic City now cost \$29 per person

The cost of the daily bus service to Trump Taj Mahal Casino has increased to \$29 per person.

Only for ages 21 and over. The bus will leave Vitali's Restaurant, Best Western in Edgewood 9 a.m. and return 9 p.m. Seating is limited and sells quickly. Seats must be purchased at least two weeks in advance.

For more information, contact MWR Leisure Travel Services, AA Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGRUSAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com.

All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://www.armycivilianservice.com> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.



May bowling specials

- Bowl from 2 to 4 p.m. for \$1 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Early Bird Special: Bowl from 7 to 10 a.m. for \$1 per game. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Each Friday, 9:30 to 11 p.m., bowl one game for \$3.50 and receive one game free. Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza (toppings extra) and one pitcher of soda for \$34 (Up to

- six people). Shoe rental costs \$2.
- Memorial Day special: Up to six people can bowl for one hour for \$15 between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Includes shoe rental.

Bowling rates

Bowling costs \$3 per game, Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; games cost \$3.50 each on Fridays, 9:30 to 11 p.m.; Cosmic Saturdays cost \$3.75 per game; and \$3 per game on Sundays.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 1 to 11 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday. Lunch delivery is available for orders of \$25 or more. Call for delivery before 11 a.m.

Week of May 16

Special #1: Chicken tender sub with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$7.25.

Special #2: Pork BBQ with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$6.25.

Week of May 23

Special #1: Two hot dogs with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$5.55.

Special #2: Grilled ham and cheese with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$5.50.

The Bowling Center also serves breakfast. For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



- Walt Disney World 4 Day Military Salute Tickets with Park Hopper and Water Park Fun and More Options, \$165 each

Tickets can be upgraded to add either option, or both for an additional \$27 per option.

All tickets must be purchased at least three weeks prior to departure dates.

Black-out dates include July 4, 2011 at Magic Kingdom only.

The active duty/retiree must be present at Disney to activate the tickets.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call MWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Medieval Times discount tickets available through Leisure Travel

The Leisure Travel Office has discount tickets for Medieval Times Dinner and Tournaments located at Arundel Mills Mall, 7000 Arundel Mills Circle, Hanover, Md.

Tickets cost \$39.25 per adult and \$32 per child (ages 3 to 12). Reservations must be made at the time of purchase; other locations available upon request. All prices and savings are based on the final cost to include all taxes and fees. Prices are subject to change without notice.

Visit the MWR Leisure Travel Office, Bldg. 3326, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call MWR Leisure Travel Office, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, Bldg. 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or email APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

APG Running Club

The APG Sports and Fitness Branch has begun a Running Club for organized weekly runs. Club members meet 5 p.m. every Tuesday at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center and 5 p.m. every Thursday at Hoyle Gym in the Edgewood Area. Dan Dolce, Morale, Welfare and Recreation fitness coordinator, oversees the club. For more information, contact Dolce at 410-278-7933/7934 or e-mail, dan.dolce@us.army.mil.



Off to a winning start

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades coaches a child during the first League of Dreams practice of the season at the Churchville recreation center May 14. League of Dreams provides developmentally challenged children the chance to participate in organized sports at their level. Parent Mike Brown said his son was very excited to participate. “Special needs children should participate in sports for the same reasons any child should participate. It gives them a chance to socialize, be active, have fun and learn new skills.” Call 410-719-1641 for information.

Photo by Rachel Ponder

MORE ONLINE

To view more photos of events going on at and around the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground, visit the garrison Flickr site <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/> or scan the QR code.



Survey shows troops save more at AAFES

AAFES

A recent study of Army and Air Force Exchange Service prices shows that troops save an average of 24 percent when exercising their exchange benefit.

The Market Basket Survey, conducted in October 2010, compared prices at nine locations including Baltimore, Md.; Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; Killeen, Texas; Omaha, Neb.; Tacoma, Wash.; Phoenix, Ariz.; Hampton/Newport News, Va.; Honolulu, Hawaii and Los Angeles, Calif.

Conducted by an independent research firm, the report focuses on the percentage of savings military patrons receive based on market, retailer and department.

Due to the variations in currencies overseas, the exchange focused on operations in the United States; however the value proposition remains consistent throughout the world.

The results, indicative of the command's ongoing efforts to survey prices both locally and nationally, reaffirm AAFES' commitment to provide the best possible prices for authorized patrons, wherever they're called to serve.

If shoppers do encounter a lower

price, AAFES goes as far as to match the price with or without a competitor's ads. For example, if a shopper spots a price difference of less than \$10, they simply notify the cashier and the price is matched on the spot.

For price discrepancies greater than \$10, shoppers only need to bring in a current local competitor's ad to receive the reduced price. In either scenario, the product must be identical to the item at the exchange store.

"The exchange even offers a fourteen-day price guarantee on any purchase made at the Exchange," said AAFES Chief of Staff Col. Virgil Williams.

"That means if an item is sold at a lower price by the exchange, or any local competitor, the price is matched up to two weeks after the sale."

Complete details concerning the AAFES price matching policy are available online at www.shopmyexchange/customerservice/priceMatch.com.

"Whether price matching or surveying our everyday prices the result speaks for itself -shoppers save at the exchange," said Williams.

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Joan Campbell, 410-278-5668, e-mail joan.campbell@us.army.mil

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Tidy Baptiste	Sabrinna Faulkner	Carolyn Moore	Diane Simmons
Sarah Blevins	Thomas Garrett	Margaret Nahrgang	Philip Sibley
Debra Bonsall	Holly Geppi	Ulrike Neyens	Danielle Smith
Diane Bratton	Charles Giles	Marie D. Nowak	Sonya Taylor
Georgia Braun	Jessica Green	Stephanie Parrett	William Taylor
Holly Cacciapaglia	Lynae Green	Ella Patrick	Joya Tucker
(Vets Administration)	Walter Holland	Richard Pecoraro	Ashley Unaegbu
Jeanie Calles	Debra Ingram	Christi Peterson	Luis Villafane
Clark Capers	Kari Jackson	Donna Pierce	Emily Whaley
Mary Cheek	Maia Kaiser	Michele Reamey	Fletcher "Chip"
Lori Clark	Dawn Kowalewski	Melissa Rickey	Williams
Hennither Cole	Jessica Knight	Russell	Taryn Wilson
Glenda Cosenza	Teresa Lawson	Pedro Rodriguez	Tammy Woodard
Vikas Dane	Cindy Learn	Maria Santiago	BruceWoodmansee
Meg Downey	Shantiea Mack	Gloria Scott	
Chris Edwards	Sheila Martin	Paul Shelley	
Megan Farley	Andrea Miller	Lena Shelton	

Financial management classes available at APG

Continued from Page 1

and other things like that,” she said. “We learned to be frugal. It wasn’t bad if you like to eat Ramen Noodles.”

The counseling worked to her advantage. She obtained the position and said she maintains many of the habits she developed through counseling.

“I highly recommend this program,” she said. “Don’t wait until you need it.”

Army Community Service’s Alleyne helps commanders sustain deployment readiness by maintaining unit financial readiness and counsels clients on financial self-sufficiency. He said he has had the privilege of helping many people improve their credit scores and obtain the necessary skills to balance their personal budgets.

He also noted that budget counseling is just one of several financial management tools available to Soldiers (active duty, Guard and Reserve and retirees), civilians, contractors and Family members through Army Community Service.

Alleyne has 16 years in the financial services industry with nine years as the

ACS Financial Readiness Program manager. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Management Studies from the University of Maryland, is a current member of the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education, a former registered representative with a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers and is an accredited financial counselor.

In addition to conducting one-on-one budget and financial counseling, Alleyne also develops and conducts training for groups, units and organizations throughout the APG community. Classes include banking and credit union services, budget development and record keeping, debt management, using credit wisely; getting insurance; making large purchase; consumer scams; consumer rights and obligations; financial planning, savings and investing; retirement planning; Thrift Saving Plan; money management; and principles of personal finance.

And all counseling is, “first and foremost,” confidential, said Alleyne.

The Financial Readiness Program also refers customers to local resources, on and off post. These may include Army Emergency Relief, Family Advocacy, Relocation Assistance, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate for legal services or the APG Tax Center. Off post referrals may include nonprofit organizations such as Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Maryland or Delaware or local social services agencies, churches and food pantries.

Alleyne said financial assistance is for everyone though most people make the mistake of not seeking financial assistance until they are in crisis.

He said the value of obtaining and maintaining a financial plan for the future cannot be overstated.

“Only 10 to 20 percent of people will come here with no problem, and out of a desire to do better,” he said. “Financial counseling is not only remedial, it’s also productive. We also look at where people should put their money.”

Alleyne said most customers come

into the Financial Readiness Program through command referral and that training is mandatory for first-term Soldiers.

Regularly scheduled classes are held in the ACS conference room, Bldg. 2503, and are free. Classes are held 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. as follows:

- May 16, Avoiding Identity Theft: Fighting Back Against ID Theft
 - June 22, Investment Part I: Investment Fundamentals
 - July 13, Investment Part II: Investing Through Mutual Funds
 - July 27, Investment Part III: Retirement Planning (TSP)
 - Aug. 15, Investment Part IV: Estate Planning
 - Aug. 31, Money Management Part I: Managing Savings and Checking
 - Sept. 7, Money Management Part II: Building and Managing Good Credit
 - Sept. 19, Money Management Part III: Credit Cards and Consumer Loans
- For more information, contact Alleyne at 410-278-2450 or email arcelio.v.alleyne.civ@mail.mil.

APG welcomes Joint SATCOM Engineering Center

Continued from Page 1

the JSEC Strategic Systems Branch of the Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center’s Space and Terrestrial Communications Directorate, which manages and operates the facility.

“That’s why we needed this transitional JSEC Risk Mitigation Facility at APG, to house only those systems that we could not afford shut down while we moved to APG because they support overseas contingency operations,” said Schoonveld.

The new JSEC RMF includes a portion of the systems that comprised the Strategic Systems Lab at the Fort Monmouth JSEC, along with an array of SATCOM earth terminals that support those systems. Some of the systems there were provided by the Defense Communications and Army Transmission Systems project management office, part of the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS). The systems provided by DCATS include the Multiplexer Integration and Digital Communications Satellite Subsystems Automation Sys-

tem, which provides Warfighters access to Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS), Defense Satellite Communications System and commercial satellites through Standardized Tactical Entry Point and DoD Teleport sites; and the Enhanced Bandwidth Efficient Modem, which is the DoD-standard modem for military satellite communications.

“We did not turn off these systems at Fort Monmouth until we were confident that we could support the mission here at APG,” said Carl Morris, DCATS’ Project Leader for the JSEC RMF, who added that the systems “went hot” during the first week of April.

Now that the JSEC RMF is up and running, the next step is for the entire JSEC at Fort Monmouth to be dismantled and moved to an objective JSEC facility that is currently under construction at APG, said Karen Lohsen, DCATS’ Project Leader for the objective JSEC facility. The objective JSEC facility will include four labs: the entire Strategic Systems Lab; a Control Systems Lab; an On-the-Move Tactical SATCOM Lab; and a Tactical Systems Lab.

Lohsen said that, despite construction delays – due to extremely high amount of snow this past winter and other factors – she expects construction of the SSL to be completed by June, with subsequent installation of systems at the objective JSEC facility to be completed in November. She said that the Army will move the systems from the Fort Monmouth JSEC into the objective JSEC facility at APG. In addition, she said, DCATS will provide an AN/GSC-39 earth terminal that was refurbished at Tobyhanna, Penn., Army Depot and in the future will provide a new MET (Modernization of Enterprise Terminals) terminal, which are just starting to be fielded by DCATS.

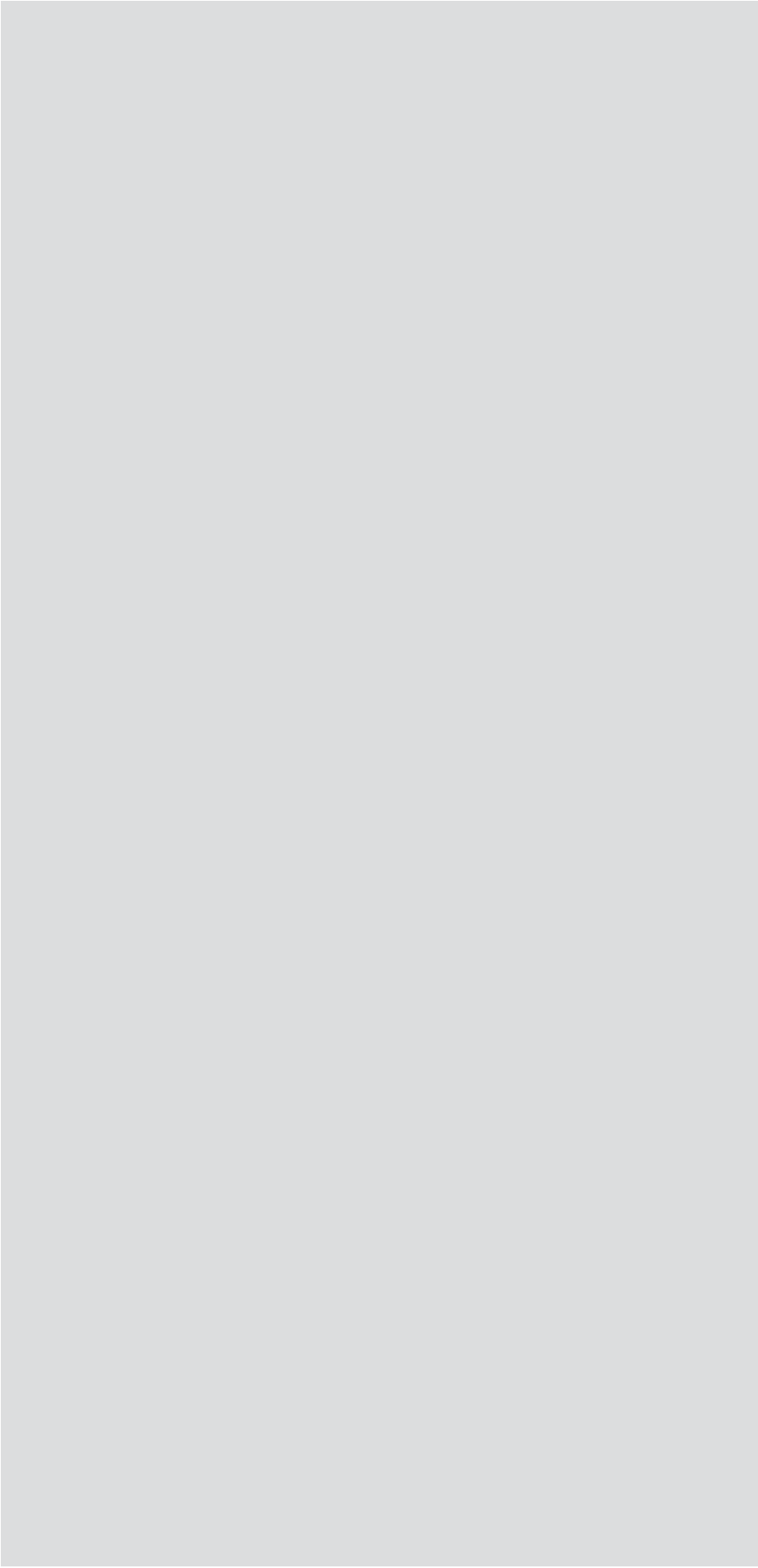
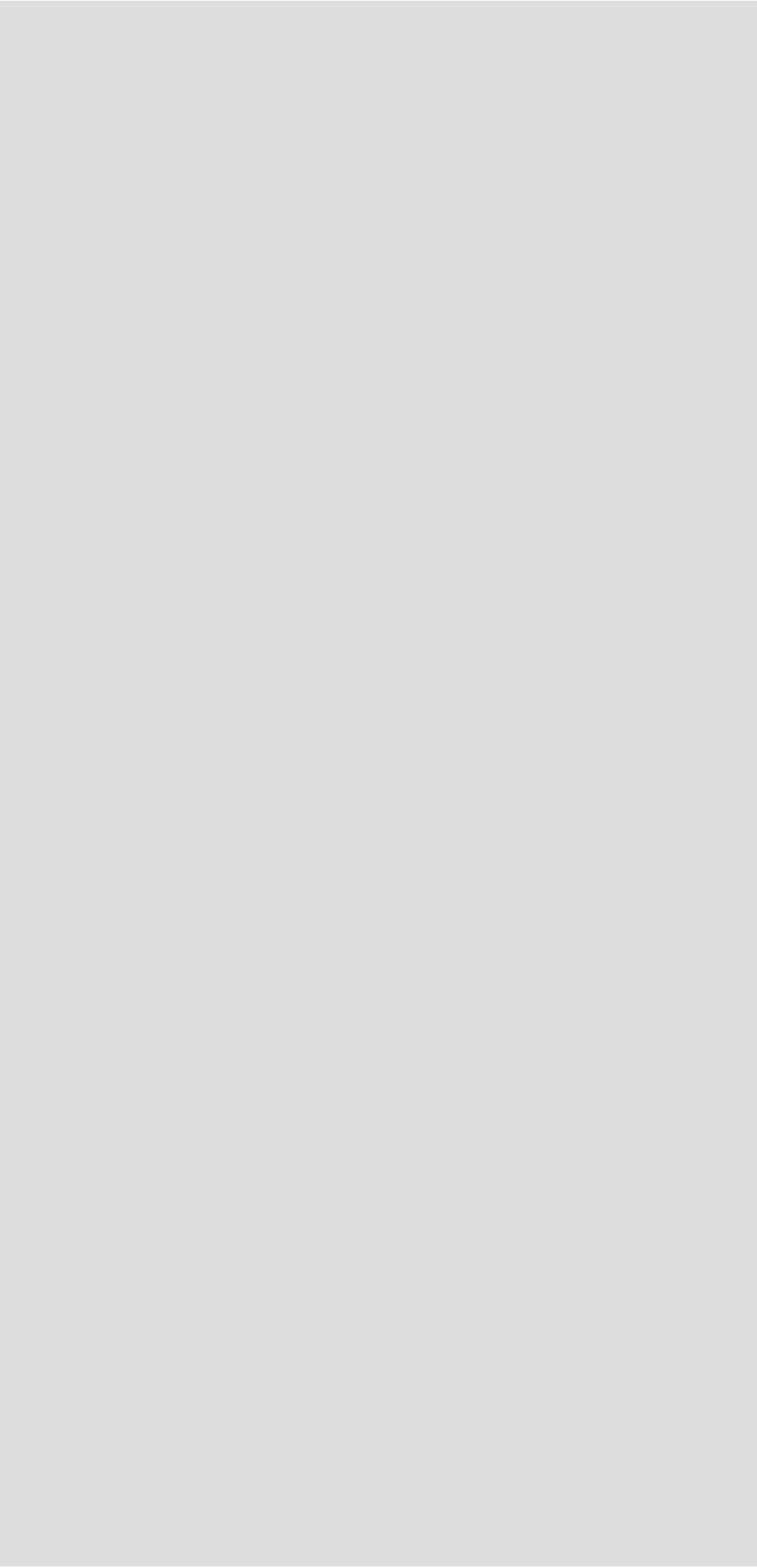
The AN/GSC-39 terminal has an 11.6 meter (38 ft.) diameter dish and operates in the X-band spectrum, while the MET terminal has 12.2 meter (40 ft.) diameter dish and is capable of X-band or dual simultaneous X-band /Ka-band operation, enabling it to fully exploit the capabilities of Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS) and XTAR (commercial X-Band) satellites.

“After the objective JSEC and the JSEC RMF run concurrently for about

two weeks, we’ll remove the systems from the JSEC RMF and send them to the depot for redeployment and use as spares for other SATCOM sites,” said Lohsen.

All parties involved agree that the move of the JSEC from Fort Monmouth to APG has been a challenge. However, “failure was not an option,” said Col. Jeff Mockensturm, the Project Manager, DCATS, because the work at the JSEC ensures deployed Warfighters have an “information lifeline.”

“DCATS has been supporting SATCOM missions since the earliest days of the military satellite program, by providing essential SATCOM infrastructure for the entire DoD community, including our deployed warfighting forces,” said Mockensturm. “We’ve enjoyed a long and fruitful partnership with the CERDEC in ensuring warfighters have long-haul communications reachback over any military or commercial SATCOM system available to them, and the JSEC has played – and now, thanks to the work of this team, will continue to play – a critical role in ensuring that deployed forces continue to have that information lifeline.”



Substance abuse programs offers free service

Continued from Page 1

stress times,” he said. “Some individuals abuse alcohol and drugs as a way to deal with their problems. We play a vital role in assisting individuals during difficult situations.”

Knox said the ASAP program is in high transition. Previously ASAP was divided between the Installation Management Command and the Medical Command. IMCOM was responsible for functional duties including program drug testing, prevention education and training while MEDCOM was responsible for clinical services. Now ASAP is centralizing its services, making it easier for Soldiers, civilians, retirees and Family members to get the help that they need.

One way ASAP helps the community is through its Employee Assistance Program. Soldiers, civilians, retirees and Family members can now attend up to four sessions through the EAP. Contractors are advised to

use their company’s EAP.

Based on the assessment, individuals can be referred to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic to be treated by certified clinicians who practice independent psychological and mental health, or they may be referred to another facility.

“By law, seeking help from the EAP cannot be used against you,” Knox said. “This is a confidential environment. We want people to see this as an opportunity to get assistance that they need.”

Another way ASAP helps the community is by co-sponsoring community events and programs like the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program and National Drug Take Back Day to raise awareness and educate the community.

For more information about ASAP, call 410-278-3810.

DRUG TAKE-BACK

APG Community Policing and Army Substance Abuse Program co-sponsored this year’s April 29 Prescription Drug Take-Back event which took place April 29. Expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs and over-the-counter medicines were dropped off at APG South Police Station, Bldg. 4420, and APG North Police Station, Bldg. 2200.

Forty pounds of prescription drugs and OTC medicines collected at both APG North and South were delivered to the Havre De Grace Police Station for proper disposal the next day. “APG really stepped it up this year,” said Cindy Scott ASAP prevention coordinator. Last year APG collected 18 pounds of prescription drugs and OTC medicines.

After more than half-century of duty, Zaky retires

Continued from Page 1

save for a grainy photo or two of his battle buddies in Vietnam.

“They were the best,” he said, holding one of the photos, his mind racing to a distant time and place.

His demeanor is slow and thoughtful -- and thorough. His brown eyes sparkle when he talks about Soldiers and soldiering -- skills he learned at a young age with men he continues to call his brothers.

Born in Chicago in 1930, Zaky is the son of Turkish immigrants.

“My father came to America before World War I with his six brothers, but only two of them stayed,” he said, adding he’s never visited his relatives in Turkey because he spent all his time “on the other side of the world,” meaning Southeast Asia.

“Dad was 42 and mom was 16 when they married,” he said. “Dad was an Albanian Turk, and mom was a Yugoslav Turk, born in the U.S. The marriage didn’t last long.”

In the three years they were together, the Zaky’s had three children, Arif and his brother, Enver.

“We had an older brother, but he died,” Zaky adds. “Dad never told us what happened.”

After his parents divorced, Zaky’s mother remarried, and Zaky has a stepbrother from that union.

“His name is John Michael Wegel. His father was German. We’re still in contact -- we’re actually pretty close. He’s retired now, a big hunter and fisherman up in Wisconsin.”

Zaky isn’t sure whether Wegel will attend his retirement luncheon.

“It’s just going to be my family -- my son and his wife and my two granddaughters, and one of my two great granddaughters, and my daughter and her husband and my grandson. My other great granddaughter can’t make it because her husband is deploying,” he said.

And Gisela “Jeanie” Barwig, Zaky’s new bride, will be there. The two married earlier this month.

Too young for World War II, Zaky became an underaged Army recruit in 1946.

“I convinced my mother to sign a waiver so I could join up,” Zaky recalled.

After basic training at Fort Knox, Ky., and airborne training at Fort Benning, Ga., Pvt. Zaky reported to the 187th Parachute/Glider Infantry Regiment, 11th Airborne Division, and began his Army career jumping out of perfectly good aircraft. With hostilities coming to a close, Zaky never saw combat.

“They heard I was coming,” he said, smiling.

Zaky runs through his military career chronologically, to keep things straight. He adds colorful sidebars, comical asides and keeps a listener’s attention with vivid, captivating narratives.

After World War II, Zaky separated from the service and considered going to college.

“As a WW II vet, I joined the 52-20 GI Bill... \$20 a week for 52 weeks. I was living with my dad. He came home one afternoon as I was packing my bag.”

“Where you going?” his father asked.

“I’m on a three-day pass,” Zaky said, trying to explain. “I’m heading to Fort

Bragg to join up with my old unit -- the 82nd Airborne Division -- the Honor Guard of America.”

Zaky reenlisted for the 82nd and boarded a bus for North Carolina, this time to begin his military career in earnest. In February 1951, Zaky volunteered for an assignment with the 187th Regimental Combat Team -- in Korea, a part of the world he would become extremely familiar with over the next two decades.

“In July 1959, I volunteered for Special Forces. I was an E-7 at the time and became team sergeant in the 77th Special Forces Group -- Airborne.

“In 1960, my sergeant major sent me to medical school as a secondary MOS (military occupational specialty). I went through Special Forces medical school.

“Our training was advanced, and some doctors liked us, some didn’t. I learned to debris battle wounds, set fractures, stitch people up. I pulled teeth. And I learned it in one year. Some doctors don’t like it when you do things like that, and others try to help. Within Special Forces, you’re the team medic.”

“In 1961 I was with the 5th Special Forces Group, to help them form up. Then I went to 1st Special Forces Group in Okinawa in 1962. In July we left for Seno, Laos, to the only three-way paved runway in the country. There was a French marine battalion there, too. We worked with Group Mobile One, airborne guys. We jumped with them.

“We also learned to speak the language, but we pulled out of there in September 1962. Americans were out. French were still there.

“I went back to Oki,” Zaky said, referring to Okinawa. “Then we went to Vietnam in February 1963. When I came back in the summer, my wife and kids were on Oki. And it was good. Both my kids learned to speak Japanese fluently. Every Friday, their Japanese teacher would start them out with songs and then to speaking the language.

Zaky later accepted an assignment with the 1st Armored Division in Fort Hood, Texas.

“I told the personnel guy there I was a parachutist and he said, ‘Good. Jump off a tank.’

“It took me about four months to get out of Fort Hood, out of the 1st Armored Division,” Zaky recalled. “I had to volunteer to go to jump school for the third time. I only had to take one jump, and then went back to my old company, Company K, 504th Airborne Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division.”

Zaky spent much of his career at Fort Bragg. Once he left on orders for Korea, only to be blindsided by a change in plans.

“I got to Oakland Army Terminal, stopping so I could see my mother in California,” Zaky said. “And the personnel guy at the terminal said, ‘I can’t send you to Korea. You didn’t sign a waiver.’

“Well, I ain’t signing no waiver,” Zaky said, being stubborn.

“So I got assigned to Alaska, to Fort Greeley. I became an instructor in the U.S. Army Cold Weather and Mountain School,” he says, adding that Alaska was a great tour.

“In winter I taught arctic survival and

skiing. In summer I taught mountain climbing, boating and river navigation.

In May 1964, Zaky again returned to Okinawa. At that time, Capt. William L. Richardson was forming Project Delta to train Vietnamese officers.

“It was November 1964, that’s when they came in,” he said referring to Project Delta at the 5th Special Forces Group. Zaky was assigned as senior advisor to a Vietnamese ranger battalion.

“We didn’t wear any rank because when we trained the recon teams, they were mostly officers. They all thought we were warrant officers,” he says.

In November 1965, Zaky received orders from the 1st Group to go to SOG -- Studies and Observation Group.

“Our guys called it the Special Operations Group,” he said.

The SOG was a highly classified, multi-service U.S. special operations unit that conducted covert unconventional warfare during the Vietnam War.

In 1968, Zaky received a direct appointment to captain and was assigned to Camp Hardy, Okinawa, as executive and training officer for Special Forces pre-deployment training for A Teams departing for Vietnam.

Later, after attending the Basic Infantry Officers Course at Fort Benning, Zaky was assigned to the U.S. Army Infantry Training Center at Fort Bragg as commander of a basic training company.

“I couldn’t stand it,” Zaky said. “I wanted to get back to Vietnam.”

Zaky had to wait until the end of a training cycle before driving to the Pentagon for an office call with the Army chief of staff, one of his former commanders, Gen. William Westmoreland.

“The general said if any of us boys ever needed anything to come see him, so I did. I walked out of the Pentagon with orders for Vietnam,” Zaky says.

Zaky retired from active duty Jan. 31, 1977, with more than 30 years’ service.

After retiring, Zaky and his first wife, Martha, traveled around the country for a few months (“I didn’t do anything,” he claimed). Then a former commander offered Zaky a job at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

“I didn’t even know this place existed,” he said.

Zaky took the job, and he has been at APG since.

“At AMSAA I started out in the war gaming room. What we did was classified. I can’t talk about it,” he said, adding that he was developing war games in which NATO countries were involved.

“I was part of a team. We did everything, the whole scenario, both sides. There was a bigger effort here than down in the unit where I was. Down there at the unit we played Army,” Zaky said.

“We had numerous war games, plus we did studies for the Army. We did a communications study and won an Army award for that. It was good. I briefed the AMC [Army Materiel Command] commander on it because my boss picked me,” he added.

“We did quite a bit down at Fort Benning -- Soldier studies,” he said. “We’ve been involved in human science modeling, comparative results, operations in urban terrain, worked with Rangers down at Fort Benning -- some on equipment, but mostly tactical movements.

“I never knew this place existed. And now for 33 years I’ve been here taking care of Soldiers.

“I love Soldiers,” Zaky said with unquestionable conviction. “I love ‘em.”

“AMSAA does quite a bit, but my area is mostly involved with the Soldiers -- equipment and Soldiers. What equipment will fit in the new vehicles? What can they carry and what they can’t.

“The Soldier still carries the load,” Zaky said, adding, “I never carried more than 25 pounds, but things were different then.”

Things will be different for Arif Zaky beginning May 24. His first journey will be back to his past.

“I’m going to a Special Forces reunion in June, with the 1st Group - the group from Oki,” he said.

“I was in the 77th, the 7th, and the 5th I helped form, and I was with them and the 1st. The 1st SF Group -- we were the tightest group -- that’s our opinion. Some of the guys from Germany might argue that. But we were the tightest at the time because we were closest to Vietnam, and we were always coming and going from Oki.”

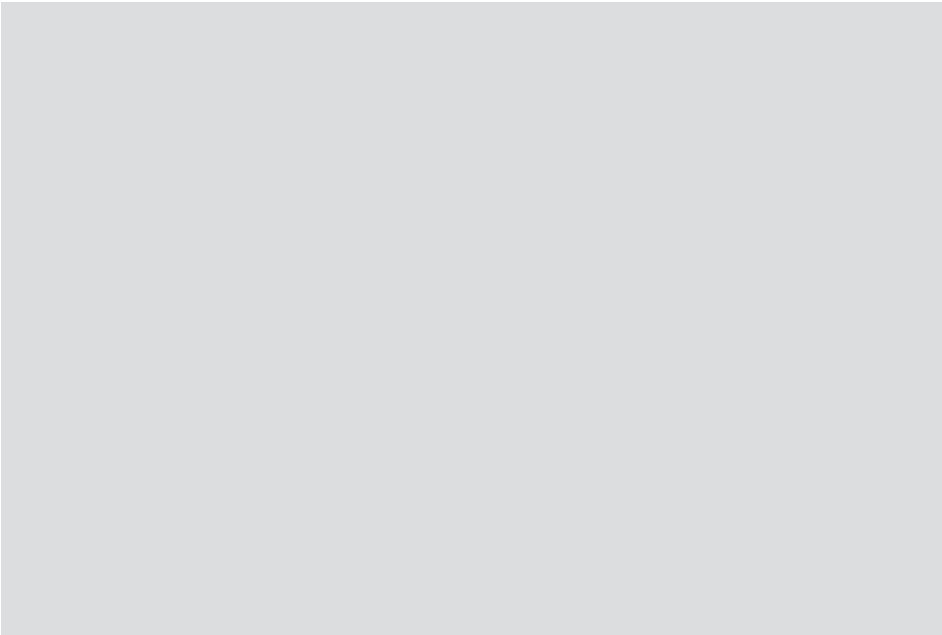
Zaky flashes to his time on Okinawa.

“We had a policy, when a guy was gone, we took care of their family. They knew to call us, they had our numbers. We called the families once a day to check and see if they needed anything because a lot of them didn’t have cars.”

Zaky expects to see 194 members of his Special Forces family at the reunion June 17-22.

“The hotel is already sold out,” he chirped as he talked about his accommodations. “But they got another one about a mile away, and it’s \$20 cheaper.”

That’s obviously with the senior discount Zaky so richly deserves.



HEALTH NEWS

Living in the moment aids stress relief

By **LISA YOUNG**
U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional)

Do the inevitable stresses of daily living leave you feeling like you are missing out on the joys of life? Would you be interested in learning how to slow down to enjoy life, moment by moment?

Since 1979 there has been a growing interest in what is called “mindfulness” practices. Mindfulness can be defined as a conscious, present-centered awareness in which each thought, feeling or sensation is purposefully acknowledged and accepted in the present moment with a non-judgmental attitude of curiosity, openness and acceptance. Although inspired by Buddhist teachings, there is nothing religious about mindfulness, and it can be practiced independent of religious or cultural influence.

Over the past 30 years, there has been an increase in the study of mindfulness. Current research suggests that mindfulness practices are useful in the treatment of pain, stress, anxiety, depression, disordered eating and addiction. Most recent studies on mindfulness have looked at this new field as a psychological tool capable of stress reduction and the elevation of positive

Current research suggests that mindfulness practices are useful in the treatment of pain, stress, anxiety, depression, disordered eating and addiction.

emotions. Studies inquiring into “mindfulness-based stress-reduction” interventions have produced the following findings:

- Benefits of improved immune system
 - Increase in positive effect and a faster recovery from a negative experience
 - Reducing distractive behaviors to reduce stress
 - Emotional regulation and focused breathing resulting in positive responses
 - Declines in mood disturbance and stress
- Research centered on mindfulness as a tool to elevate and sustain positive emotional states found that meditation practices showed:
- Increases over time in purpose in life and social support, and decreased illness symptoms
 - Increased brain and immune function
 - Higher subjective well-being promoting the perception of “having enough.”

Mindfulness has been used as treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder at Veterans Administration hospitals.

U.S. Army Ranger Monty Reed stated in an interview for CNN that a therapy that incorporates mindfulness has helped him with the chronic pain, flashbacks and anger resulting from a parachute jump accident. He said, “Mindfulness is a belief system that I use to change my attitude toward bad things that happen to me, and that gives me control of the results or the outcome.”

Mindfulness is also used to help patients with eating disorders, such as weight loss, binge eating, anorexia or bulimia. It teaches patients to focus on the present and eat food with purpose on purpose. The idea is to be aware of any judgments that occur with the eating process, release them, and concentrate on how the food tastes.

When used as a part of therapy for depression and anxiety, psychotherapists have included mindfulness techniques to manage negative thought patterns.

Some approaches are focusing on each inhale and exhale of breathing to gain a sense of control, or choosing to visualize a calming time or place that brings a sense of peace.

To experience a deeper sense of living in the moment, try some of the following simple mindfulness exercises:

- Meditation
- Deep breathing
- Listening to music
- Observing your thoughts
- Journaling

Virtually any activity can be a mindfulness exercise if you bring a heightened sense of focus to what you are doing right then. Try it and find yourself less stressed and more grounded in the present moment.

For more information about mindfulness and stress reduction, go to:

- The Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care and Society, <http://www.umassmed.edu/content.aspx?id=41252>
- National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, <http://nccam.nih.gov/health/meditation/overview.htm>

Education minimizes risk of stroke

By **TRISH PROSSER, Ph.D.**
U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional)

National Stroke Awareness Month takes place in May every year. Stroke is the third leading cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the United States. About 795,000 strokes occur in the United States each year. About 610,000 of these are first or new strokes, and about 185,000 occur in people who have already had a stroke.

The National Stroke Association urges education to help reduce the incidence of stroke. The three main approaches to education are:

- Stop stroke through risk factor management.
- Act (fast) to increase recognition and response to stroke symptoms.
- Spread HOPE about recovery from stroke.

Risk factor management

Strokes can affect all people, regardless of age, race or gender. Eighty percent of strokes can be

avoided, however. There are uncontrollable and controllable risk factors for stroke. Uncontrollable risk factors include being a male over age 55, being African-American, Hispanic or Asian/Pacific Islander, or having a family history of strokes. Controllable risk factors for stroke involve lifestyle and medical risk factors. Lifestyle risk factors that can be controlled include tobacco use, alcohol use, physical inactivity and obesity. Medical risk factors that can be best managed by working with a physician include high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, certain heart conditions and circulation problems.

Stroke symptoms

The National Stroke Association stresses the importance of learning the warning signs of stroke and recommends the FAST acronym to help people remember the warning signs:

F – FACE: Ask the person to smile. Does one

side of the face droop?

A – ARMS: Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

S – SPEECH: Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is their speech slurred or strange?

T – TIME: If you observe any of these signs, call 9-1-1 immediately.

Recovery from stroke

Recovery from stroke is an ongoing process. For some people, it may start with formal rehabilitation to restore independence and quality of life. The National Stroke Association encourages learning about stroke and recovery, and provides additional resources.

For more information:

- National Stroke Association, <http://www.stroke.org/site/PageServer?pagename=awareness>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Stroke/>

APG SNAPSHOT

A peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/> or <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rdecom>.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

HEALTHY FUN

APG employees work it out to Zumba while celebrating Health and Fitness Day at the APG North (Aberdeen) athletic center May 5. Visitors chatted with healthcare vendors and exercised during the annual observance to promote positive fitness habits. May is Employee Health and Fitness Month. See more photos at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg>.



Courtesy photo

SHE'S A WINNER

Amanda Shults, pictured with her son, shows off the "Date Night" package for two that she won during Military Spouse Appreciation Day held at the Neighborhood Office and hosted by Picerne Housing May 6. Residents were invited to stop by and receive free giveaways, enjoy refreshments and enter to win the Date Night package, which included a \$100 restaurant gift card \$25 movie theater gift card. Amanda is the wife of Sgt. Edward Shults. Picerne will host the annual Resident Picnic June 25. Check your monthly newsletter or the *APG News* for more information.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

A BETTER PLACE

Scouts and adult volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 810 in Abingdon help beautify the World War II-era Civilian Memorial at APG South (Edgewood) May 7. Prospective Eagle Scout Tommy Surdu is heading up the project. The memorial will be rededicated during an 8:30 a.m. ceremony May 30. The installation Memorial Day ceremony at the Edgewood Cemetery follows at 9:30 a.m. Both ceremonies are open to the public.



Photo by Maj. Carol McClelland

PURPLE BUSINESS

It was an exchange of information and ideas when Army Brig. Gen. Leslie Smith (left), commander of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE) and Air Force Maj. Gen. Jonathan Treacy, commander of Joint Task Force and Civil Support, along with his team, Marine Col. Doug Schueler, deputy commander and Navy Master Chief Glen Hopkins, senior enlisted advisor visited the 20th Spt. CBRNE headquarters at APT to discuss Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive response May 11. JTF-CS is focused on CBRNE consequence management planning and preparedness and command and control of DoD forces following a catastrophic CBRNE incident and the 20th Spt CBRNE specializes in that field for the Army and DoD.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

SMART PRESENTATION

Lt. Col. Gregory Manns of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (left) draws on a SMART Board at the CCS Presentation Systems display as Smart Technologies office coordinator Sean Galligan looks on during the Spring 2011 Technology Expo at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center. See the full story in next week's *APG News*.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Japanese American internments an ill, oft-forgotten memory of WWII

By **DIANA KARAKOS**
ORISE Intern APG-DPW-ED-EPSB-CR

World War II produced some of the world’s most painful and horrifying images.

Many people envision Hitler with rows and rows of troops marching by, saluting. Others recall pictures of the skeletal-thin bodies of men, women, and children who were forced to endure life, and where many met their death, in concentration camps throughout Europe.

Few, however, recall the rampant racism that spread like wildfire throughout the United States against Japanese Americans after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942. This resulted in the forced removal of approximately 120,000 Japanese Americans from their homes to 10 internment camps scattered throughout the western United States. The American government justified this order with the explanation that the Pearl Harbor attack could only have been made possible with the cooperation of Japanese spies. It was determined that the imprisonment of thousands of Americans of Japanese descent would help prevent another attack of this nature.

Unfortunately, this act seems to have been initiated amid incredibly high wartime hysteria and carried out with no proper proof of Japanese American espionage. Two thirds of these people were United States citizens and half of them were children. According to a 2005 study completed by the National Park Service, “even though the justification for the evacuation was to thwart espionage and sabotage, newborn babies, young children, the elderly, the infirm, children from orphanages, and even children adopted by Caucasian parents were not exempt from removal. Anyone with 1/16th or more Japanese blood was included. In all, over 17,000 children under 10-years-old, 2,000 persons over 65-years-old, and 1,000 handicapped or infirm persons were evacuated.”

According to a survivor interviewed for the documentary, Children of the Camps, “I remember the soldiers marching us to the Army tank and I looked at their rifles and I was just terrified because I could see this long knife at the end . . . I thought I was imagining it as an adult much later . . . I thought it couldn’t have been bayonets because we were just little kids.”

This nightmarish scene became reality for the men, women, and children who were forced into what the president himself termed concentration camps, surrounded by barbed wire fences and watched over by armed guards.

At the camps, some families were split up. Many died due to inadequate medical treatment or from the emotional stress caused by life in the camps. Others were killed for disobedience. Ironically, the 10 people that were accused of spying for Japan during the war were all Caucasian.

The Japanese families were given a mere 48 hours to pack only what they could carry before being bused to the camps. Many docilely followed the orders to evacuate their homes. For some, this was a way to prove their loyalty to the United States. However, due to the short notice they were given before evacuating, they were forced to sell their possessions for a price far below market value. Some chose to leave their belongings in the care of friends rather than sell them for such terrible rates.

If the Japanese Americans were over 17 years of age, they were forced to take a loyalty test. Two of the questions were: “1) Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty, wherever ordered? and 2) Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any and all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and foreswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, or any other foreign government, power, or organization?”

For some, these questions were



Courtesy photo

The American government justified Executive Order 9066 with the explanation that the Pearl Harbor attack could only have been made possible with the cooperation of Japanese spies.

insulting, as they already considered themselves loyal to America. For those that were not U.S. citizens, but legal aliens, the second question, in effect, left them without a country to call their own. Many debated how to answer these questions, some with a yes and others with a no. Those who answered yes were allowed to leave the relocation centers if they had a sponsor.

When the call to enlist came after the attack on Pearl Harbor, many Americans with Japanese ancestry were eager to sign up. However, the bombing resulted in their classification as 4-C Enemy Aliens whose loyalty was questionable, preventing them from enlisting.

In February 1943, the U.S. government decided to create an all-Japanese unit lead by Caucasian officers. Many Japanese Americans chose to join the unit as a way to prove their own and their family’s loyalty to the United States, hoping it would result in their release from the camps if they proved themselves in battle.

One Japanese American who enlisted, Shiro Takeshita, explained, “It was the only thing I could think of to do. I felt that was the only way we could be recognized as being loyal Americans.”

About 1,200 evacuees joined, forming the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. This unit merged with the 100th Infantry Battalion in 1944. The units fought in both Europe and North Africa. Many were involved in intelligence and translation activities for the Army. According to the National Park Service Study, ironically, “the 522nd Battalion of the 442nd Regiment discovered and liberated the Dachau Concentration Camp, but was ordered to keep quiet about its actions.

The next day, another American battalion arrived and ‘officially’ liberated the camp. The combined 100th Battalion/422nd Regimental Combat Team was one of the most decorated units in the U.S. Army, with 18,143 individual citations and 9,486 casualties in a unit with an authorized strength of 4,000 men.”

According to an article published by the San Francisco Chronicle in 1995, “They were the most highly decorated unit in U.S. military history. They fought in seven major campaigns in Europe, made two beachhead assaults and captured a submarine.

In France they liberated Bruyeres and rescued the ‘Lost Battalion’ – 275 Texas infantrymen who had been trapped inside German territory for almost a week. Known also as the Purple Heart Battalion, with more than 700 men killed and 9,500 Purple Hearts, they suffered the highest casualty rate in U.S. Army history.”

Their commanding officer, Colonel Jim Hanley explained, “What the soldiers lacked in physical size...they made up for in spirit. They were like regular soldiers, only better. They were a lot easier to handle than the average unit. They obeyed orders, and they always tried.”

Despite their extreme valor in battle, when the soldiers returned home at the end of the war, they and their families faced



Photo by Toyo Miyatake

Anyone with 1/16th or more Japanese blood was included. In all, over 17,000 children under 10-years-old, 2,000 persons over 65-years-old, and 1,000 handicapped or infirm persons were evacuated.

extreme racism. This caused them to campaign for recognition of their efforts and an apology from the government for their blatantly racist treatment during the war. They received no redress from the American government until 1988, when the Civil Liberties Act was approved by Congress and President Ronald Reagan provided a formal apology. The Act also mandated that Congress pay each victim \$20,000 in reparations.

The Japanese American veterans also worked very hard to create a national memorial to commemorate both the soldiers’ and the civilians’ service to the United States in order to remove the “stigma of shame placed on the backs of these loyal Americans.” The National Japanese American Memorial was dedicated on November 9, 2000, in Washington, D.C.

According to the National Japanese American Foundation, “The memorial honors the heroism and sacrifice of Japanese Americans who fought and died for their country.

The memorial tells the story of Japanese Americans who supported their nation on the home front. But the memorial does not tell merely a Japanese American story. It tells an American story of patriotism, perseverance, and posterity. It is a story about the rights of every American. It is a story of triumph over tragedy.” This year, a second, local memorial site was dedicated on April 25 to the Japanese American citizens who resided in Venice, Malibu, Santa Monica, and West Los Angeles, Calif. who were forced to live in the internment camps.

Known as the Venice Japanese American Memorial, it is located at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards. This corner is the same one where those of Japanese descent assembled to board the buses that took them to the internment camps.

Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl explained, “This com-

memorative marker ...[would] serve as a constant reminder of the denial of U.S. Constitutional rights to a minority group that simply shared the ethnicity of the nation that attacked Pearl Harbor... [and would] commemorate the start of the internment of hundreds of Japanese Americans living in the Venice community on April 25, 1942.”

About 1000 people were taken from this area to the Manzanar camp in the Owens Valley in Inyo County.

The memorial will consist of a four foot concrete pedestal, metal plaques, and historic signs. Councilmember Rosendahl has already raised \$5,000 of the \$20,000 needed to construct it. “There are countless people who cross this intersection every day, yet have no idea why it’s significant to our area and the role it played in history,” said Rosendahl. “The marker will remind us of this dark moment in history and why we need to shine a light on injustices when it comes to our civil rights.”

To help the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee reach its goal of \$20,000, send a donation to the VJAMM Committee in care of the Free Venice Beachhead, P.O. Box 2, Venice, CA, 90294.

Information for this article was found at:

- <http://theopendaily.com/community/memorial-for-wwii-japanese-internment-camp-victims-to-be-installed-in-venice>
- <http://njamf.com/>
- http://www.historyonthenet.com/WW2/japan_internment_camps.htm
- <http://www.children-of-the-camps.org/history/index.html>
- <http://www.sfmuseum.org/war/issei.html>
- <http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/themes/JPNAmericanTS.pdf>
- <http://venice.patch.com/events/venice-japanese-american-memorial-marker-vjamm>

120,000

Japanese Americans were forcefully removed from their homes.

17,000

children under 10-years-old,

2,000

persons over 65-years-old, and

1,000

handicapped or infirm persons were evacuated.



Members of the Fairfax Chinese Dance Troupe (from left) Teresa Horn, Huo-juon Ku, Hong-ji Yu and Mei-hui Ko perform a traditional Chinese dance called “Viewing Flowers” during the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month observance at the APG North recreation center May 13.

APG celebrates Asian Pacific heritage

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Culture was celebrated in song, dance, with exotic food and colorful artifacts during the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month observance at the Aberdeen Recreation Center May 13.

Jonysie Uncangco, a student from the Aberdeen Science and Math Academy opened the program by singing the national anthem and Brig. Gen. Leslie Smith, the commanding general of the 20th Support Command (CBRNE), gave opening remarks.

“Since the early days of our nation and our Army, Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders have played a crucial role in writing and shaping our unique history,” Smith said. “Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have become tightly woven into the fabric of America. We continue to embrace the wonderful diversity and character of our multicultural society.”

Retired U.S. Army Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, was the keynote speaker. While on active



Looking out unto the audience like this, I see the integration and complexity of our society and the way we managed to make ourselves whole.

Retired U.S. Army Gen. Eric K. Shinseki
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

duty, he served as the Army chief of staff. During his tenure, he initiated the Army Transformation Campaign to address both the emerging strategic challenges of the early 21st century and the need for cultural and technology change in the Army.

During Shinseki’s speech he told the audience that Asian and Pacific Islanders came to America with the dream of creating a better life for their families.

“For most, the immigrant experience was a saga of hard work and hope, prejudice and pride, passion and perseverance and eventually triumph,” he said. “Every next generation fared better than

the first. They were very courageous people, trusting their instincts and their ability to work hard.”

Shinseki said he is proud that America has progressed to a nation that celebrates diversity.

“Looking out unto the audience like this, I see the integration and complexity of our society and the way we managed to make ourselves whole,” he said. “We live in a great land in which many of our forbearers surrendered what little security they might have by leaving their homelands to gamble on a brighter future in this great nation.”

In addition to remarks from the guest

speaker, members of the Fairfax Chinese Dance Troupe, a non-profit amateur group dedicated to sharing art and culture performed several traditional dances for the audience. Attendees also sampled traditional Asian and Pacific Island dishes and viewed cultural displays.

Phuong Tran, who works at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, said that she attended the program to celebrate her culture. Tran, originally from Vietnam, said her family moved to the United States in 1984 to pursue better opportunities.

“I identify with what the speaker said,” Tran said. “It was really difficult to move here and not know the language but we knew that it was worth it because there are more opportunities here. We were able to create better lives for ourselves through hard work.”

See more event photos at www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg.

Holocaust survivor shares story of endurance

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

A former Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldier returned to the installation as the guest speaker for the Days of Remembrance Observance of the Holocaust at the Post Theater May 3.

Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, welcomed Holocaust survivor Nicholas Attias, a Yugoslavian Jew who spent the war years as a child in Italy, hidden by strangers in small towns and farms.

Audience members included children and youth from area schools and cadets from the Free State Challenge Academy.

“Today you will get to hear a living history that challenges our values and blessings,” Justice told the audience. “Through the lighting of these candles, open your minds to learn this history so we will never repeat those sad events.”

About 6 million European Jews are believed to have perished throughout Nazi-occupied territory as a result of the systematic state-sponsored Holocaust.

Some scholars maintain that the definition of the Holocaust should also include the Nazis’ genocide of millions of people in other groups, including Gypsies, Soviet prisoners of war, Polish and Soviet civilians, homosexuals, people with disabilities, Jehovah’s Witnesses and other political and religious opponents. Using this definition, the total number of Holocaust victims is estimated at 11 to 17 million people.

As Justice welcomed Attias back to the installation as the guest speaker for the APG’s annual Holocaust remembrance ceremony, he shared with the audience a brief history.

He noted that Attias came to the United States by steamship in 1950 at age 15. He spoke Yugoslav and Italian, and very little English. His family settled into a



Home-schooled teens with the Sovereign Grace Home School in Joppa conduct the candle-lighting ceremony during the Days of Remembrance Observance of the Holocaust at the Post Theater May 3. Pictured from left are Andrew Hepler, Melodi Lewis, Danielle Hepler and Emily Hepler. Not shown are Evelyn Powell and Keith Lewis.

small apartment in New York City where he enrolled in high school, eventually working his way through college before being drafted into the Army and assigned to Edgewood.

“He retired here in Maryland and remains here in this community,” Justice said. “I welcome you to our stage today.”

Attias began by telling the audience how life for his and millions of families changed in 1940 and 1941. He said his father was a store owner and his mother worked alongside him “until the Germans came through.

“They started rounding up Jews from their homes and pretty soon everyone had to wear a badge identifying themselves as Jews.”

He recalled his father being beaten by German soldiers for refusing to wear a badge and not much later how his mother led him to a train bound for Italy.

“This is not the story of a hero; it’s just the story of a lucky kid and many of my incredible experiences,” Attias said.

For nine years, even after being separated and reunited with his family, Attias was hidden from the Nazis by farmers, storekeepers and dozens of other Samaritans protecting Jews from the Nazis.

“We were always silent, and it seems like we were always looking for food,” he said. “Most of us were very thin but we were also very lucky because we met good people who took extraordinary risks.”

He added that while people think of

Italy today as a place for fun and good food it was not so during that time.

“The truth of the matter is the USA lost 50,000 Soldiers in Italy and about 15,000 Italian-born Jews were deported to Germany,” he said. We were in constant danger.

He said that when the Germans finally retreated after the Allied invasion and the Americans arrived, “you can’t imagine the happiness.”

“I was one of the barefoot kids running after GIs for candy bars,” he said. “The ability to just walk around again was overwhelming. Still, there was no instant fix. Schools had to be rebuilt, homes had to be rebuilt and lives had to be rebuilt.”

Arriving in New York was like arriving on another planet, Attias said.

“I didn’t talk because I stuttered, I didn’t know the language and I didn’t have any friends,” he said.

Still he worked hard to learn English, and get through high school and college.

“One of the proudest moments of my life was when I was sworn into the Army,” he said. “Can you imagine just a few years earlier I was a kid running after jeeps?”

Attias encouraged guests to view his mementos, which included the badge he was forced to wear and photos of his parents and the ship that carried him and his family to America.

The message to his story was simple, he said.

“Be tolerant and understanding of others,” he urged. “Be aware and learn because ignorance is dangerous.”

Larry Burton of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory served as the program’s master of ceremonies. Rabbi Ruskin of the Harford Jewish Center offered the invocation and benediction and led the candlelight ceremony which was performed by home-schooled students of the Sovereign Grace Home School in Joppa.